

flexible seal member defines a surface which generally conforms to the adjacent portions of said first and second fairing portions.

17. A flexible seal member for aerodynamically bridging a first fairing portion located on a fixed aircraft structure and a second fairing portion located on an adjacent moveable aircraft control surface, said flexible seal member

*A<sub>2</sub>*  
*(cancel'd)*

comprising:

a composite sheet element of at least rubber-like material incorporating a plurality of reinforcing plies across at least a portion of said sheet element, each ply comprising one or more fabric elements, whereby said composite sheet element is deformable to conform to accommodate differential movement between said first and second fairing portions while generally conforming to adjacent portions of said first and second fairing portions.

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**REMARKS**

Prior to examination on the merits, it is requested that the above-offered amendments and newly written claims be entered and considered with the initial consideration of this application.

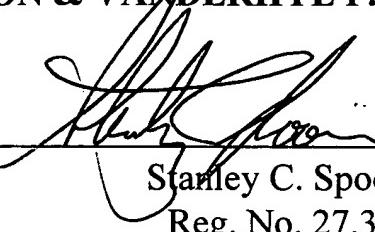
**JOHNSON**  
**Serial No. 09/048,838**

In the event the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of any of the above claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:



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